

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 SAM-01 IO-14 ACDA-19

SAJ-01 DRC-01 (ISO) W

----- 109007

O R 201806Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0570

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 02800

E. O. 11152: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, GW, WB

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION AT QUADRIpartite AMBASSADORIAL
LUNCHEON

REF: BONN 2735; STATE 032423; BONN 2756

1. SUMMARY: THE REGULAR MONTHLY QUADRIpartite
LUNCHEON TODAY ATTENDED BY THE THREE ALLIED AMBASSADORS
AND STATE SECRETARY FRANK COVERED A NUMBER OF CURRENT
BERLIN PROBLEMS.

2. FRANK RAISED ON AN URGENT BASIS THE PROBLEM
PRESENTED BY BUNDESTAG PRESIDENT Renger WHO HAD
DECIDED TO PRESS AHEAD AND CALL A MEETING OF THE BUNDES-
TAG PRESIDUM IN WEST BERLIN ON MARCH 5. HE REITERATED,
AS REPORTED IN FIRST REFTel, THAT SH'E HAD REQUESTED AN
ALLIED OPINION BY THE EVENING OF FEBRUARY 2L. HE ALSO
NOTED THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WOULD SUPPORT AN
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ALLIED POSITION THAT THE MEETING WAS POLITICAL-

LY INADVISABLE AT THIS TIME AND PRESENT IT TO RENGER AND THE GUNDESTAG LEADERSHIP AS A JOINT FRG/ALLIED POSITION. BOTH THE BRITISH AND FRENCH AMBASSADORS STATED THAT THEY WERE PREPARED TO HAVE THEIR GOVERNMENT'S OPPOSITION TO THIS MEETING CONVEYED TO RENGER. THE US AMBASSADOR INDICATED THAT HE REQUIRED FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS BUT WOULD ENDEAVOR TO OBTAIN THESE FROM WASHINGTON ON AN URGENT BASIS AND WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH FRANK, HOPEFULLY, NO LATER THAN THE START OF BUSINESS ON FEBRUARY 2L.

3. THE US AMBASSADOR THEN PRESENTED TO FRANK IN GENERAL TERMS THE PROPOSAL FOR AN UNDERSTANDING ON BERLIN CONSULTATIONS AS CONTAINED IN SECOND REFTEL. BOTH THE FRENCH AND BRITISH AMBASSADORS SAID THEY COULD SUPPORT THIS INITIATIVE BUT INDICATED THAT, IN THEIR VIEW, IT FELL FAR SHORT OF MEETING THE NEEDS OF WHAT SEEMED TO BE A RAPIDLY DEVELOPING SITUATION. AMBASSADOR SAUVAGNARGUES ADDED THAT HIS GOVERNMENT BELIEVED THAT, IN ADDITION TO SUCH AN AGREEMENT, WHICH WAS IN ANY CASE INHERENT IN THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE THREE OCCUPYING POWERS IN BERLIN TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, THERE SHOULD BE AN AGREED COOLING OFF PERIOD DURING WHICH NO FURTHER MOVES SHOULD BE MADE TO ESTABLISH ADDITIONAL FEDERAL AGENCIES IN BERLIN. FRANK'S REACTION TO THE US PROPOSAL WAS UNENTHUSIASTIC. HE COMMENTED THAT THE AMERICAN SUGGESTION APPEARED TOO FORMAL IN NATURE AND SEEMED TO HAVE JURIDICAL IMPLICATIONS WHICH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WOULD FIND DIFFICULT TO ACCEPT, AND WHICH MIGHT EVEN GET IT INTO TROUBLE WITH THE CONSTITUTIONAL COURT IN KARLSRUHE. HE WOULD MUCH PREFER SOME SORT OF A GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT. IN ANY EVENT, HE WOULD AWAIT THE MORE COMPLETE AND TEXTUAL PRESENTATION OF THE AMERICAN PROPOSAL WHICH, HE ASSUMED, WOULD TAKE PLACE IN THE BONN GROUP.

4. IN THIS GENERAL CONTEXT, THE THREE ALLIED AMBASSADORS REFERRED TO INFORMATION WHICH THEY HAD JUST RECEIVED FROM THEIR MINISTERS IN BERLIN CONCERNING AN APPROACH BY MINISTERIALDIREKTOR HERMANN KREUTZER (INNER GERMAN RELATIONS). INDICATING THAT THIS PROPOSAL HAD CONFIDENTIAL

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ALREADY BEEN CLEARED BY THE CHANCELLOR AND MINISTER BAHR, KREUTZER SAID THAT THREE FURTHER FEDERAL ESTABLISHMENTS FOR WEST BERLIN WHICH THE SENAT WAS PUSHING WERE AN INSTITUTE FOR SPACE RESEARCH, A NATIONAL CULTURAL FOUNDATION, AND AN INSTITUTE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (APPARENTLY DISTINCT FROM THE FEDERAL OFFICE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION). APPARENTLY, THE INSTITUTE FOR SPACE RESEARCH IS ALREADY COVERED BY A LINE ITEM

IN THE FEDERAL BUDGET. THIS INFORMATION APPARENTLY
CAME AS A COMPLETE SURPRISE TO FRANK WHO THREW UP HIS
ARMS AND EXCLAIMED THAT THIS WAS AN EXAMPLE OF THE PRO-
BLEMS WHICH THE FOREIGN OFFICE HAD IN ATTEMPTING TO CO-
ORDINATE ACTIVITIES INVOLVING WEST BERLIN. AS A MATTER
OF FACT, HE CONTINUED, THE ONLY REAL FUNCTION OF THE
FOREIGN OFFICE IN THIS AREA WAS TO SERVE AS A CHANNEL

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 02800

OF COMMUNICATION AND DISCUSSION WITH THE THREE ALLIES.
SINCE BERLIN MATTERS WERE NOT CONSIDERED TO FALL WITHIN
THE DOMAIN OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, THE ACTUAL RESPONSIBILI-
TY RESTED WITH MINISTER BAHR AND WITH THE CHANCELLOR
HIMSELF OR THE FEDERAL CABINET AS A WHOLE.

5. THE BRITISH AMBASSADOR TOOK THE OCCASION TO MAKE
THE POINT THAT BAHR AND OTHERS WERE MISREPRESENTING

THE ALLIED ROLE IN THE DECISION TO ESTABLISH A FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICE IN WEST BERLIN. NO REAL CONSULTATIONS HAD TAKEN PLACE. HE WENT OVER THE MAIN POINTS OF THE BRITISH PAPER REPORTED IN THE THIRD REFTEL.

6. THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR REPORTED ON THE RECENT CONVERSATION IN PARIS BETWEEN FOREIGN MINISTER JOBERT AND GROMYKO. THE LATTER HAD STRONGLY ATTACKED THE PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A FEDERAL
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ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICE IN BERLIN CLAIMING IT WOULD BE IN CLEAR VIOLATION OF THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT AND COULD NOT BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT SOME APPROPRIATE REACTION. JOBERT MADE THE USUAL WESTERN DEFENSE, EMPHASIZING THAT THE OFFICE WAS COMPATIBLE WITH THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT. GROMYKO NOTED THAT THERE WAS AN OBVIOUS WIDE DIVERGENCE OF VIEWS INVOLVED, AND THAT HE PROPOSED TO GIVE MINISTER BAHR A HARD TIME ON THE SUBJECT WHEN HE VISITED MOSCOW LATE IN FEBRUARY.

7. COMMENT: I WOULD HOPE THAT THE DEPARTMENT IS ABLE TO AUTHORIZE ME, NO LATER THAN THE START OF BUSINESS HEREON FEBRUARY 21, TO INFORM FRANK THAT THE US IS ABLE TO JOIN THE BRITISH AND FRENCH IN THE VIEW THAT A MEETING OF THE BUNDESTAG PRESIDIO IN WEST BERLIN AT THIS TIME WOULD BE INADVISABLE. I ASSUME THERE WILL BE NO DIFFICULTY IN DOING THIS GIVEN THE DEPARTMENT'S SIMILAR POSITION IN PRINCIPLE, AND THE NEW AND URGENT TIME FACTOR INTRODUCED BY BUNDESTAG PRESIDENT RENGEL. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT RENGEL APPARENTLY VERY MUCH WANTS TO HAVE THIS MEETING IN WEST BERLIN, AND IF SHE IS NOT HEADED OFF QUICKLY WILL UNDOUBTEDLY AGAIN TAKE TO THE PUBLIC MEDIA.
HILLENBRAND

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